## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing terylene-3,4:11,12-tetracarboximides of the general formula I

in which the variables are each defined as follows:

## R, R' are each independently hyrdrogen hydrogen;

 $C_1$ - $C_{30}$ -alkyl whose carbon chain may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S-, -NR<sup>1</sup>-, -CO- and/or -SO<sub>2</sub>- moieties and which may be mono- or polysubstituted by cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, aryl which may be substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, and/or a 5- to 7-membered heterocyclic radical bonded via a nitrogen atom which may contain further heteroatoms and be aromatic;

 $C_5$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl whose carbon skeleton may be interrupted by one or more -O-, -S- and/or -NR<sup>1</sup>- moieties, and/or which may be mono- or polysubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl;

aryl or hetaryl which may be mono- or polysubstituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, cyano, halogen, -CONHR<sup>2</sup> and/or aryl- or hetarylazo, each of which may be substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{10}$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy or cyano;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl; and

 $R^2$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ -alkyl; aryl or hetaryl, each of which may be substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, carboxyl or cyano,

which comprises reacting a perylene-3,4-dicarboximide of the general formula II

in the presence of a base-stable, high-boiling organic solvent and [[of]] an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal base, with a naphthalene-1,8-dicarboximide of the general formula III

in which X is hydrogen, bromine or chlorine.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent [[used]] is an aprotic organic solvent.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent [[used]] is a polar-aprotic organic solvent.

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Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent [[used]] is a nonpolar-aprotic organic solvent.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent [[used]] is a protic organic solvent.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the organic solvent [[used]] is a solvent containing amino and hydroxyl functions.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The process according to elaims 1 to 6 claim 1, wherein the base used is a strong inorganic or organic alkali metal base.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process according to elaims 1 to 7 claim 1, wherein the base used is an alkali metal alkoxide.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The process according to elaims 1 to 8 claim 1, wherein a nitrogen base having lesser nucleophilic action is additionally used as an auxiliary base.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The process according to elaims 1 to 9 claim 1, wherein the reaction is undertaken at temperatures ranging from 50 to 210°C.